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Kay Bulen  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Peter W. Laird et al.

Parent Serial No.: 09/311,912

Parent Filed: 14 May 1999

For: PROCESS FOR HIGH THROUGHPUT DNA METHYLATION ANALYSIS

Parent Examiner: L. Arthur

Parent Art Unit: 1656

Docket No.: 47675-9

Date: 10 December 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir or Madam:

This is a Preliminary Amendment to accompany a Continuation Application, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b), for USSN 09/311,912 filed 14 May 1999. Kindly amend the above-identified Continuation Application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please *insert* the following paragraph at page 1, line 4 of the specification (immediately before the paragraph having the heading "Technical Field of the Invention"):

**--Cross-reference to Related Applications**

This application is a continuation of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/311,912, filed 14 May 1999 and entitled PROCESS FOR HIGH THROUGHPUT DNA METHYLATION ANALYSIS.--

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 121(b), please *substitute* the following two *contiguous* paragraphs for the corresponding paragraphs beginning on page 9, line 14 and extending through page 10, line 2. Appendix B (attached hereto) contains a "marked up" version of these two paragraphs: